

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 528

By Beck

A RESOLUTION to recognize Chaplain James Duke of the Metro Nashville Police Department on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Chaplain James Duke of the Metro Nashville Police Department (MNPd) is one such estimable individual, who has devoted his life to the preservation of law and order and the protection of his fellow citizens, and has taken his well-deserved retirement after thirty-three years in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Austin Peay State University, Chaplain James Duke began his service with MNPd in October 1988 with nearly ten years of experience as an officer in other jurisdictions and served as an MNPd officer until the mid-1990s, when a near-death experience following his response to a shoplifting incident inspired him to go into ministry; and

WHEREAS, an active church member throughout his life, the agony from his injury inspired Chaplain Duke to strike a deal with God to serve in whatever capacity He would require if his arm was fixed; throughout his recovery, he attended his home church, Hills Tabernacle Primitive Baptist Church, and heard the call to become a preacher; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Chaplain James Duke became an ordained minister after attending Emmanuel Bible College, and two years later he became a police chaplain; and

WHEREAS, during his extensive career, Chaplain Duke performed his duties with acumen and alacrity, helping his fellow citizens in any way that he could and proving himself time and again to be a tremendous asset to the Metro Nashville Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Chaplain James Duke exemplifies the values of hard work, compassion,

and devotion to community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean and diligent officer of the law; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Chaplain Duke has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the sincere respect and admiration of his colleagues, his fellow officers, and a grateful public; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Chaplain James Duke of the Metro Nashville Police Department upon the occasion of his retirement, extending our gratitude for his many years of dedicated service to the residents of Metro Nashville and our best wishes for success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.